

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01003 111402Z

73

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 111310Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1546

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1003

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: LIBYAN PRESSURE TO OBTAIN C-130 AIRCRAFT

REF: TRIPOLI 982, 920 AND 811; STATE 163347

1. PAGE REPRESENTATIVES JOHANSEN AND WALSCHMIDT HAVE BEEN IN TRIPOLI SEEING THEIR CONTACTS AND HOPING LIBYANS WOULD COME TO POINT OF SIGNING CONTRACT WITH PAGE FOR AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. JOHANSEN DESCRIBED TO US MEETING HE HAD WITH LIBYAN AIR DEFENSE OFFICER AND DEPUTY AIR FORCE CHIEF, WITH RCC DEFENSE SECRETARY MAJOR AL-SAYYID SITTING IN AND COS LT. COL. YUNIS LOOKING IN TO BE BRIEFED AT END OF SESSION. LIBYANS' EMPHATIC MESSAGE WAS THAT PAGE CONTRACT WOULD NOT BE SIGNED BEFORE USG RELEASED EIGHT C-130'S BEING HELD AT LOCKHEED FACTORY IN GEORGIA. AT ONE POINT OFFICERS CLAIMED TO BE INCENSED BECAUSE WRITTEN REPLY FROM EMBASSY TO MFA REQUEST FOR RELEASE HAD NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED (TRIPOLI 811).

2. MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR SHAYBANI MENTIONED C-130'S TO CHARGE AT SOCIAL FUNCTION TWO DAYS AGO, SAYING THAT PRIMIN JALLOUDD HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH HIM URGING ACTION IN MATTER. SHAYBANI AGAIN WENT OVER ARGUMENT THAT BENEFICIAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN LAR AND U.S. COULD TAKE PLACE, AFTER RELEASE OF C-130'S.

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3. IF DEPT HAS DELIVERED WRITTEN REPLY TO LIBYAN EMBASSY (STATE 163347), SUGGEST WE BE SENT TEXT WHICH COULD ALSO BE COMMUNICATED IN NOTE TO MFA.

4. WE HAVE NO CLEAR IDEA WHEN LIBYANS MIGHT DECIDE THEIR EFFORTS ARE HOPELESS OR WHAT THEY MIGHT DO THEN. FOR SHORT TIME NOW THEY MIGHT WAIT TO SEE EFFECT OF PRESSURE ON PAGE. WE HAVE HEARD RUMORS THEY ARE EXPECTING SAUDIS TO INTERCEDE FOR THEM. HAVE SAUDIS IN FACT MADE APPROACH? WE DO NOT DISCOUNT ENTIRELY POSSIBILITY THAT HIGH LEVEL LARG GROUP OF TWO OR THREE OFFICIALS MIGHT DECIDE TO VISIT WASHINGTON TO ARGUE THEIR CASE. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS MORE LIKELY THEY WOULD DECIDE AGAINST SUCH A VISIT. IN THEIR EYES IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE GOING WITH HAT IN HAND AND FAILURE THEN TO OBTAIN PLANES WOULD TEND TO BE HUMILIATING FOR THEM.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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